(ii) Section 27 should be amended. Third parties also should be allowed to file complaints.

(iii) A new section should be inserted to the effect that the contractor should be held liable for any breach of the Act, whether committed by him or the sub-contractor. It is for the contractor to take any action he desires against the sub-contractor.

(iv) Though the Act specifies that the principal employer is also responsible if the contractor or sub-contractor violates the Act, in practice the contractor has been generally treated by the court as the principal employer. Consequently the principal employer escapes the liability. There is need to make the liability of the principal employer specific.

(v) The cases related to claims of disabled workmen or heirs/deceased workmen should be transferred to the state from where the migrant workers were recruited, if so desired by the workman or his/her heirs.

(vi) Special courts should be appointed where found necessary to hear disputes concerning migrant and contract labour

(vii) Steps should be taken for effective implementation of the laws, in Public Sector Undertakings employing a large number of workers, a system of bipartite arrangement for over-seeing the implementation of laws should be evolved

Some of the facilities specified in the Act, such as medical treatment, cost of hospitalization of the worker, supply of clothing, should be provided to all workers, migrants as well as local.

The proposed Bill "The Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Bill 1988" when finally passed by the Parliament would cater to the improvement in the working and living conditions of construction workers.

We have in our interim report recommended enactment of a Central Legislation for agricultural workers which would safeguard the interest of intrastate migrant workers in agricultural sector.

Scheme for workers of poor Families

762. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have introduced any Scheme for workers of poor families not covered under any insurance scheme or any law/statute ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the scope of its benefits ; and

(c) what is the number of persons covered under the scheme, State-wise since its introduction and payments made to the affected persons during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rehabilitation of bonded Labourers

763. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of bonded labourers rehabilitated, State-wise, during the last three years ;

(b) what is the manner in which Government propose to rehabilitate the remaining persons ; and

(c) the amount expenditure incurred in freeing the bonded labour and on their rehabilitation, State-wise, during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A.